

# • C o u n t e r p o i s e •

## The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Volume XLVIII

March 2007

Number 3



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon meets every 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm at the First Lutheran Church of El Cajon. The address is 867 South Lincoln Ave. Next meeting:

March 8, 2007 7:00 pm

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All Official written communication is to be submitted to:

A.R.C.E.C. P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

The Counterpoise is a publication of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). It is published once monthly and contributions are accepted from officers and members of the club. We also encourage input from members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon. Opinions expressed are solely that of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). Articles may be submitted either by e-mail or mail to the editor.

Paul Rios at:

WA6BGScouterpoise@cox.net or by post  
1237 Victor Ave #4, El Cajon, CA 92021

The Deadline is Sunday after the General Meeting.

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

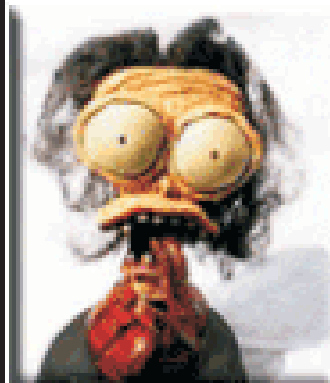
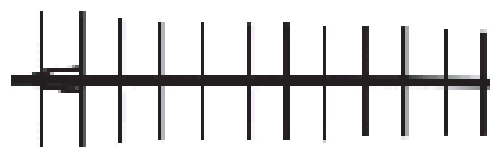
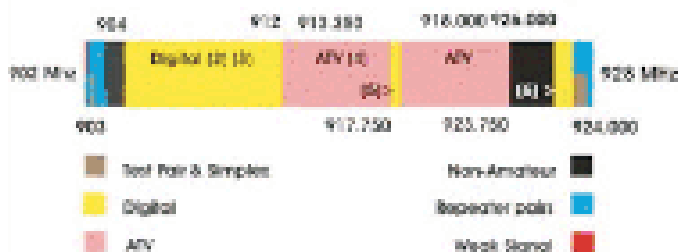
Web Site: <http://www.wa6bgs.org>

Counterpoise E-Mail address

WA6BGScouterpoise@cox.net

# 900 MHz

## 900 Mhz Band



If you stand too  
close  
to a 900 Mhz  
antenna  
at 1000 watts

Ken WA6OSB Will be talking about 900 MHz  
So come and get the scoop about this under  
used band.

## 2007 Officers

President	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Vice-President	AI6O	Ed Felter	668-0928
Secretary	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Treasurer	KG6JCW	Mike "Stogie" Panger	263-4439

## 2007 Board of Directors

Affiliated Clubs	AE6AV	Larry Plummer	460-1818
Instructor	AE6QW	Gordon Shackelford	561-6323
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Net Manager	KG6TDP	Mike Oberbauer	444-9090
Public Service	N6NKJ	Rich Beisigl	444-5465
Social	KD6PRV	Anselmo Ruiz	574-0720

## 2007 Standing Committees

Bylaws	KF6XY	John Cordle	697-2700
Club Attire	K6PKS	Paul Schmidt	733-2284
Counterpoise Editor	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Education	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Elmer	WA6L	John Graf	368-7413
EOC H2O District	KF6XY	John Cordle	697-2700
Estate Sales	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Field Day	AI6O	Ed Felter	668-0928
Health & Welfare	KF6XY	John Cordle	697-2700
Historian	OPEN		
Photographer	KI6EEL	Bridget Rios	
Post Mistress	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Prizes	WA6PPG	Carl Ferree	328-2694
Public Relations	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
SANDARC Delegate	K5WFW	Len Fulbright	258-1322
Swap Meet	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Technical	W6RHV	Bob Boehme	448-4728
Ticket Lady	KI6EEK	Lisie Rios	
WA6BGS Trustee	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
WAMO	W6CCM	Erich Bennett	401-7332
Web Master	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445

## Staff and Writers:

KC6QLS	Paul	Editor
AI6O	ED	Vice President
N6OPH	Mike	Meeting Minutes
KI6FIH	Tassy	HAM Spot Light
W6CCM	Erich	WAMO
W5COM	Tom & Lisie	Jokes
N6NKJ	Rich	Amateur Radio at Large
KK6MS	John	Down Below in EC
WA6MHZ	Pat	Crest Radio Museum
KI6EEL	Bridget	Photos

## SANTEE DRIVE-IN SWAP MEET

10990 Woodside Ave., North  
FOR INFORMATION, CALL 449-SWAP  
Ham Radio, Computers, Electronics  
ACRES & ACRES OF BARGAINS  
1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month  
GATES OPEN 6:30 AM

## From The President

**Paul KC6QLS**



Thank you to Tony Sawyer, KE6IER for an interesting presentation on the Humane Society animal rescue efforts following hurricane Katrina. Tony commented on how his prior experience saved him, the team and others from black water and potential injuries. This shows one can never have enough training and experience and that as volunteers we draw on many past experiences. So from your toolbox of training, you never know which one to bring, so you might as well bring all of them.

Also, I would like to say that I had the opportunity to take John's, WA6L online class on contesting. I found that this class was very well thought out and easy to take. I would recommend anyone to take one of his Elmering classes. You start out by clicking on <https://na1.connect.acrobat.com/kalypsys> in your browser and put in your call in the appropriate spot. You wait a second or two, then you are invited in. At this time to hear the voice, you must dial a phone number. We will be working on using Yahoo chat room protocol in the future. We will make a private room that the individuals can join in so everything can be done online. I cannot wait until the next class. The list will be posted soon.

It is thinking like this, "thinking outside the box", that will help keep our club moving forward in a positive direction. I know that there are more members out there that have ideas. Please call, e-mail me or just grab me at the next meeting and let me know your ideas. I will bring them up to the Board, and if they agree that it is a direction that we would like to go, then we will bring it up at the general meeting.

73,  
Paul Rios, KC6QLS

## Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

General Membership Meeting  
8 February 2007



The general membership meeting was called to order by the club president Paul Rios, KC6QLS at 1911hrs. After the pledge of allegiance, visitors were welcomed. **SECRETARY'S:** report in the *Counterpoise* was approved as published.

**TREASURER:** Mike "Stogie" Panger, KG6JCW read his report. It was approved as read and filed for audit.

**EDUCATION:** chairman Mike, N6OPH reported that the Technician class has been cancelled and that the general upgrade class should begin on the second Tuesday of March. Gordon, AE6QW will be the instructor.

This evening's presentation will be animal rescue. The presenter was Tony Sawyer, KE6IER from the San Diego Humane Society Animal Rescue.

It was announced that Harley, K6DS became a silent key two weeks ago.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Paul announced that there would be a cleanup brigade at Harleys QTH on Delaware St. This will occur on 3 March 2007. Rich, N6NKJ announced that ARES may no longer support the Special Olympics or the "I love a clean San Diego." It would be necessary that these events would need support on the club level or by SANDARC. Rich has also resigned from ARES. Volunteers are needed to help operate at the next run on 12 May 2007.

The Silent Auction winning bid is \$35 for the 2007 ARRL Handbook. There were two high bids at the same price; \$31 each for N6ERB and KK6MS.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Ed, AI6O reported that the March meeting would feature Ken, W6OSB and he will be talking about FM 900mhz. Ed is requesting that club members sign up for the El Cajon club reflector. This would ease the communications necessary among club members.

**COUNTERPOISE:** Paul had to spend a lot of time with this month's newsletter. Paul is still looking for people for the spotlight. Contact Paul at [kc6qls@cox.net](mailto:kc6qls@cox.net).

**FIELD DAY:** information will be available via the club reflector. The field day site will be at the Al Bahr Shrine on the last full weekend in June 2007. The field day t-shirt contest rules were read. Contest will end on 10 May 2007.

**AFFILIATED CLUBS:** report was given by Len, K5WFW. He stated that SANDARC will continue with its present reimbursement policies and CSCE policies. There would be no automatic upgrades. The council also decided to continue charging the \$5 examination fee for all upgrade however attained. The CW testing requirement will end on 23 February 2007. After that date, CW would no longer be required for licensure for any license class.

It was voted by the council to publish a policy and procedures manual for SANDARC.

**MEMBERSHIP:** is 242 paid members. There are 49 present at the club meeting which includes 4 visitors.

**The tube bank** is currently located at Mr. Runyon's residence in San Marcos. This is a free service and may be transferred to San Diego. Gordon, AE6QW will begin teaching the general upgrade course on the second Tuesday of March.

Tom, N6JOJ reported that the swap meeting is experiencing better attendance.

ARES will meet this Saturday at Scripps Green Hospital starting at 0800. Breakfast will be served at \$7 per person.

Yuma ham fest will be on 17 February.

There being no further business before the general membership, the meeting was adjourned at 2130hrs.

Respectfully Submitted

Michael Paul Maston, N6OPH  
Secretary  
Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon



<b>AI6O</b>	<b>FELTER FINANCIAL GROUP, INC</b> Financial and Estate Planning
	<b>Ed Felter, President</b>
	8080 La Mesa Blvd Suite #113 La Mesa CA 91941 Phone: (619) 668-0929 Fax: (619) 668-5666 E-mail: <a href="mailto:edfelter@pacbell.net">edfelter@pacbell.net</a>

## From The Vice President AI6O ED



I might call this column ODDS and ENDS for this month! It isn't because the information is of little importance but because there is so much happening and we need to know about it all.

1. New CW net! WA6L, John, the club's Elmering Coordinator is going to offer a 10 meter CW net on Mondays, between 7 and 8 p.m. on 28.125 MHz and it will be slow speed. Check with John for exact time, frequency, and speeds.
2. John (WA6L) also is doing some online educational events in helping the new licensee and all of us learn the different aspects of amateur radio. Its called "elmering". Check elsewhere in this newsletter for info.
3. Welcome aboard all of the new upgraded Generals! We are an undivided group of radio enthusiasts who respect all licensees. I understand that W1AW (ARRL HQ.) will be on all week-end of the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February, in commemoration of this milestone event. Upgrading will be done beginning at 12:01 a.m.
4. I am really excited for all the ARCEC nets and the tremendous participation we are seeing! The Wide Open Ham net, the WAMO nets, the Corn Chip net, the SDDigitalVHF net, and now the 10 meter slow speed CW net all will continue to increase the club's exposure and also our thrill of operating.
5. You will be hearing from me in the very near future regarding our Field Day '07 plans. The last week-end in June is not that far away. Get your reservations for housing in today! Contact Ann Rios, KC6TBG.
6. Come to the March meeting and get the history of FM and repeater operations and 900 Mhz band UHF work/gear with Ken, WA6OSB as our guest speaker.

Straight Ahead!

Ed Felter, AI6O

### WA6BGS Nets

Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Manger
Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Controller
Frito	N6WKB	Wide Open Nets
Ed Felter	AI6O	WAMO/D

#### WAMO NETS:

Wednesday and Saturday Nights  
8:00 pm local time 7:30 "Checkins"

Tuesday Night Rag Chew net:  
8:00 pm

Nets held on club repeaters

WA6BGS Repeaters

RX 147.420 (146.475) 107.2 PL

RX 224.080 – 107.2 PL

RX 445.900 – 107.2 PL

Don't miss it. All members welcome.



#### New WAMO/D Net

ARCEC, San Diego Digital VHF Net

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Day: Thurs. "Except 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. of the month"

Mode: PSK31

Frequency: 50.290 MHz. and a QSY to 144.144 MHz

This is an open net and all are invited. Early check-ins will be taken. Hope to see you on the waterfall!

WAMO means Worked All Members Only. The purpose of WAMO is to encourage people to people communication between club members and to publicize the name of the club among fellow amateurs.

## Calendar of Events March 2007


Mar.	3:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
Mar.	3:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
Mar.	6:	Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
Mar.	8:	General Meeting, 7:00 pm
Mar.	10:	ARES Meeting, 8:00 am
Mar.	16:	Counterpoise Dead Line
Mar.	17:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
Mar.	17:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm

### Upcoming Event Dates

May.	10:	T-Shirt contest ENDS
June.	23:	Field Day 2007
July.	21:	ARCEC Annual Picnic
Oct.	??:	Fire Sation Open House
Nov.	18.	Mother Goose Parade



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San Diego, CA 92123  
(858) 560-4900 or 1-800-854-6046

The Counterpoise is also online in FULL COLOR. Check it out and the club's website at: [www.wa6bgs.org](http://www.wa6bgs.org)

Get your advanced copy by e-mail. I will send it out in .PDF format the night it goes to print. E-mail me and let me know that you would like a copy. Size of file may be up to 1.5 mb at times.

## Change of Address

### Moving?

Do not miss an issue of the Counterpoise. Fill out the Change of address form below.

Call \_\_\_\_\_ WAMO# \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
New Address:  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send to Membership Chairperson:  
A.R.C.E.C./ P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

### ARCEC Membership Application

1. Amateur Call Sign	2. Class of License
3. First Name	4. Last Name
5. Street Address	6. City, State, Zip+4
7. Home Phone	8. Work Phone
May we list: Y N	
9. DOB	10. e-mail
11. ARRL Member Yes no	12. ARES Member Yes No
13. RACES Member Yes No	14. Sponsored by: or Family Member

Return this form with check made payable to the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon or ARCEC for new or renewal membership. Annual Dues \$18.00 for Individual, \$30.00 for family. New members add \$5.00 per member. Include your call on Check. Mail to  
Membership Chairperson  
A.R.C.E.C, P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

New ( ) or Renewal ( )	WAMO Number
Certificate Issued	Dues from _____ To _____
Paid Cash ( )	Check No.
Check ( )	Date Paid:

### Computer Roster Available

Want the roster sent to you via e-mail? Send an e-mail to Ann Rios KC6TBG, and she will send you the database back as an attachment. She uses Excel, but may be able to convert to various formats if asked. Send your request to 619-593-9445 or KC6TBG@cox.net

# FUN PAGE

## Birthdays March

March	2	KF6KYX	Bobby	Morris
March	5	KS6L	Forrest	Hogue
March	9	AE6AV	Larry	Plummer
March	12	N9EPY	Roger	Coppock
March	15	KG6SDK	Walter	Buck
March	16	W3ALL	Arthur	Leveille
March	17	W6DEL	David	Lamb
March	19	WZ6K	Glenn	Boeck
March	20	WB6FWS	Dan	Floyd
March	22	W6INI	Art	Smith
March	23	KF6MPB	Joni	Cranmore
March	24	K6PFC	Paul	Cote
March	26	K6KG	Kerry	Kohl
March	27	KG6NDX	Don	Compton
March	28	WD6AXD	Frank	Sprinkle
March	31	KG6EVA	Robert	Daily
March			Mary Lee	Mansfield

Did I miss your Birthday or is yours next month?  
Your Birthday may not be on the Roster.

E-mail me: [WA6BGScouterpoise@cox.net](mailto:WA6BGScouterpoise@cox.net)

## Brain Thinkers

Feb-2007

- |                     |                            |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1= G. L for M.      | 1 Giant Leap for Mankind   |
| 2= N. in a D.       | 2 Nickes in a Dime         |
| 4= S. in a D. of C. | 4 Suits in a Deck of Cards |

----- This Months -----

- 1= K. K. on the E. S. B.
- 2= H. in a W.
- 3= B. in the H. E
- 206= B. in the H. B

## Word Search "900 MHz"

C O N V E R T A C O M S J N F W  
D N F W L K E W I G W G O W H T  
B X J H E L I A X F G O W K X  
W N O E M F W G A R T C E P S  
G O C F E J N H A R D L I N E  
I H W L N G L K O W R W H J N  
D K M O T O R O L A R F D I T  
X J G X J F N D J E E X K L H  
R E P E A T E R T H K N E W U  
E W D Z N W L R W J A O M O S  
M T X K E H E F K L E S A B I  
O G N I J V O X W I P G E X A  
T W O E S J F E A Z S J B D S  
E M I N I U H F T K X D I P T  
K D A L L O C A T I O N Q L S  
I R H F X J G K S N I F K G M  
T J K N L A I C R E M M O C A

- |                                       |                                      |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALLOCATION   | <input type="checkbox"/> HT          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BASE         | <input type="checkbox"/> MINIUHF     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BEAM         | <input type="checkbox"/> MOTOROLA    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BNC          | <input type="checkbox"/> MTX         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL   | <input type="checkbox"/> REMOTEKIT   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONVERTACOMS | <input type="checkbox"/> REPEATER    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ELEMENT      | <input type="checkbox"/> SMA         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ENTHUSIASTS  | <input type="checkbox"/> SPEAKER     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HARDLINE     | <input type="checkbox"/> SPECTRA     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HELIAX       | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSVERTER |

BOUNCE WORD ☐ WATTS

## Last Months Word Search

H U R R I C A N P K F X W E W  
A Z W K T E W X E L P M I S P  
R E C P H O R S E Y E Z E J T  
N T O E A W P R W T J W R A Q  
C A R T H Q U A K E A G E P G  
S W R L P J Y D Y P F D P L X  
S K A X W X R I E O P O E T D  
P T L Q V G E O Q R Z O A Q O  
E F G X F Q E H X J Q L T W O  
E B T S A S T E R X T F E H W  
W H C H E B A C K U P V R T N  
A Q O K E N B W A Z W Q A R E  
L Y M J N R Q Z L G F T G A K  
G V R E F V Y F I R E P V I E  
Q X T F K H A G O W K C Q E S  
T N Y H X R T J V O F L J E V  
A N I M M X A L Y K D V A R K



He was just a little kid from Maine who had two options. He could continue life as a farmer, or he could use amateur radio as an opportunity to get out. He took the latter of the two and set off humbly to take advantage of the doors opened for him to live a life that he was told wasn't possible. George Roullard, K6GTP, is the down-to-earth American opportunist who worked hard and gained priceless experiences.

George first earned his license as W1MQD at age 15 in his home state of Maine when he tested with a Class A radio operator. He proved himself Class C worthy after learning the Code in a week's time from mentor, Merle, W1EBM. After high school, George applied his skill with the radio to his training at Quonset Point Rhode Island in 1941. Ranked as a First Class Radioman, George took an opportunity to learn navigation and became an air navigator. He moved to Ford Island Naval Air Station and was part of the Instrument Flight Center (IFC) Hawaiian Area until 1945.

At the end of World War II, George returned home and received his Civilian Flying License and planned on working in civilian commercial flying, but the Korean War called him to re-enter the navy in 1947 at North Island San Diego. He was deployed to Japan until 1953 when he was discharged San Diego. While in Japan, George served with the VP42 Outfit in navigation and radar, among other jobs still holding his rank as a First Class Radioman. He talked his way into different ways to use his skills and interests while still maintaining his attachment to being a radioman.

His search for bigger opportunity didn't end there. While he served, George received an education with correspondence courses. He studied because he valued the chance at knowledge and knew its importance in life. After his discharge, he applied at Pacific Telephone and Telegraph

Company where he listed his credentials and was hired on the spot. He worked as a Microwave Radio Engineer for forty years until he retired early from Pacific Telephone Company in 1983.

Today George has been a member of the El Cajon Club for twenty years. He holds an advance license and works CW and 40 meters. He enjoys talking with people and making contacts, such as Japan and France. He recently celebrated his 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with his wife Mary Ann. He has one son named Kenneth.

Although George's life has been surrounded by radio since age 15, he knew that operating was a hobby, not a living. He wanted more. He sought out the resources and paths that would lead to a successful life using radio as his way into opportunity to do so. He says that people have the same two options he did, to either stay where they are and do what's expected or get away and get into something with a future and work hard for it.

He encourages others not to be satisfied with mediocrity. He says, "If you're going to do something—go for it. Do it right. Don't work around the edges and be satisfied with what falls off. If they tell you, 'You can't possibly do that,' then that's what's going to be your stepping stone to get to something else you can't possibly do." George doesn't intend for others to realize anything, or see what he sees now, but he knows that doors open and we have to see if we can do whatever lies across the threshold. He seized the opportunities and he respectfully has gotten from that little kid in Maine to where he is today, giving everyone a modest role model to follow and admire.

No longer just a voice on the radio, the spotlight shines on K6GTP.

73!

Tassy Rios, KI6FIH Staff Writer



**The Editor's  
Corner  
KC6QLS Paul**



**Editor**

We are getting closer to the deadlines. I would like to thank everyone who writes for the *Counterpoise*. This newsletter is definitely teamwork at its best. Mike, N6OPH sends me the general meeting minutes; Bridget KI6EEL sends me photos; John WA6L sends me his *Down Below* column; Ghost writer sends me the column *Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham's Sole*; Rich, N6NKJ sends me his new column; Pat, WA6MHZ sends me *The Crest Museum* column; Tassy, KI6FIH sends me the spotlight, and then last but not least, Tom W5COM or Lisie, KI6EEK send me jokes. So you see, it truly is teamwork.

Please keep sending me your columns, stories, and/or things you wish to see in the *Counterpoise* so we can keep the *Counterpoise* a fun and interesting read.

**Public Relations**

I heard that the trail run in Santee was a success! Great job. Unfortunately, Ann and I did not make this event due to a family emergency. I got an e-mail from the event coordinator and he told me "it was a job well-done". I would like to thank all that attended, worked a station, and used those things we call radios.

The Del Mar fair also known as "The San Diego Fair" is coming up soon. Last year we manned our booth and filled in on some days that were needed. Again, we will ask that you help man the booth at the Del Mar Fair. We will have the first weekend like we usually do. If you can help out on the other days, it would be greatly appreciated. We will have sign in sheets at the next meeting in the back. Please let me know as soon as possible if you can help so we can plan accordingly.

Some other opportunities are coming up to help us to get the word out about amateur radio; like the Open House at Fire Station number six, Mother Goose Parade, Field Day, and any other events that might come our way. Sign up sheets will be at the next meeting in the back, so please sign up if you can help out.

Paul Rios KC6QLS

# Volunteers Needed

## Up Coming Events

Del Mar Fair, Field Day, FS #6 Open house  
Please Sign up at the next meeting

## NEW E-Mail

Address for the *Counterpoise*. Please submit all *Counterpoise* Mail to:  
**WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net**

## Prize Table Needs Help

Thank you for your contributions to the Prize Table! We still need your Support and Help or it may just end up a thing of the past. To Help, contact WA6PPG Carl Ferree at 328-2694 e-mail at cferree@IEEE.ORG

## Things to keep in mind

*Get on the El Cajon ARC Reflector*

*To sign up visit:*

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/elcajonarc/>

You will get the latest news about The Club and things going on in the Ham world.

## Quote of the Month

"The city is the teacher of the man."  
- Simonides, *Fragment 53*



Plaza Las Palmas Center  
1255 Avocado Ave. Suite 103,  
El Cajon, CA 92020 (619) 440-4031



# Crest Radio Museum

Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ



## BURIED under the Paperwork

Besides all the radios at the Museum, which have completely maxed out every square inch of possible stacking space, the current drive is to complete the Library. All ARRL Handbooks have been acquired, from the incredibly rare and valuable First Edition to today's 2007 heavyweight. But did you know that the latest is not the thickest? They had the most pages in the 70's and were probably 1/6 ads until the late 60's when they stopped that. Today's 2007 issue is about 1/4 inch thinner than the 2006 edition. Maybe they use thinner paper. But recent issues all include CD ROMS with the whole book on it. Companies are getting away from killing trees and now just kill plastic. But it takes a good computer to read these, I like real PAPER books.

Also in the Library are most of the QSTs up to about 1975. The earliest ones, before 1920, go for almost \$100 each on Ebay so some of those are short, but the rest are there. Many 40's -60's CQs have been collected too. I go after early Heathkit catalogs and other catalogs that feature Ham equipment. My favorite is WRL catalogs. It is important to collect each year, as there are pics of many radios that never were in them. Ever hear of the Galaxy 6 & 2 meter Duo-Bander SSB set from 1965? No, they advertised it, couldn't make it work and never sold any. Or the 1968 Johnson Avenger Transceiver? Same deal advertised but never sold. Many companies come up with a theoretical model, put out an ad and if they get orders, try to design it. When they find out it couldn't be done, they have to refund a lot of money. This happened with Atlas's last transceiver, and it put them out of business. That shows how irresponsible Management is. They think Engineering can work MIRACLES. In truth, they can't.

The major bulk of the Library is the Manual warehouse. I try to keep a detailed list on Microsoft Access database, as there is now

somewhere around 2500 manuals of ham equipment. Twenty five HUNDRED!! Some have cost me \$30+ each!! Most around \$10. You can see in the pic all the boxes stacked up. Hope the floor doesn't collapse! Cataloging and sorting this is a lifetime project, I am lucky just to log in each incoming book. Just yesterday, I brought home over a FOOT of manuals from the Yuma hamfest, including one of the rarest ones ever. The seller never knew what he had. It was an inconspicuous looking, drab blue manual, the kind you wouldn't take a 2nd glance at. All typewritten and with only 1 blueprint schematic, it is for a VHF receiver made by Robert Dollar company of San Francisco in 1953. Would this go for \$1000 on Ebay? No, because the Bulk of the manual collectors world have never heard of it. When no one has heard of it, it is Rarer than rare!!! So it would maybe draw \$2.99, as only 1 collector would bid on it. ME!

The drive is to have EVERY manual to every ham radio ever made. Not even the Library of Congress or the Smithsonian has that! But here in the Crest Radio Museum library, we are getting very close. A guy from back east is currently shipping me 47 POUNDS of manuals! That is a whole Wheelbarrow full! Do you have any obscure or old manuals to early rigs you would like to part with? I probably have them, but there are always a few I still desperately need! Documentation is more important than the radios themselves! For without a schematic, it is virtually impossible to fix them! Don't let my wife TOSS THESE after I am a Silent key. They are worth MILLIONS!!! Pic 1: There are radios behind all those piles of paperwork! Can't get at them anymore! Pic 2: Just some of the over 50 boxes full of manuals and books! Hope the house doesn't collapse! Pic 3: Sunrise on the road to the Yuma Hamfest at 100 MPH!

—

Pat Bunsold WA6MHZ  
San Diego Section Manager  
Curator, Crest Radio Museum

## Jokes "Washing Dishes"

"What do you use for washing dishes?"

"Oh, I tried many things but found my husband best."

Lisie KI6EEK

# Down Below in El Cajon "Life Below 50 MHz"

## The Joys of CW

Let me start this column by welcoming all the new occupants of the HF bands! That's right — as of February 23rd, everyone who has an Amateur Radio license in the USA now has privileges below 50 MHz. Hopefully, that means I get more readers as well.

This month I want to talk about CW. But before you classify me as "one of them" and turn the page, let me tell you that I am "one of you." I am struggling with my Morse Code and can barely do 13 wpm on a good day with a fair wind. I fret about being too slow and I worry that I am going to make stupid mistakes while sending. And yet, I am loving CW! Let me tell you why . . .

A true story: Some months back I decided to sell an old Heathkit HW-7 that I own. This is a vintage early 1970s rig that puts out a measly 2 watts of power and only does CW. It also has a "direct conversion" receiver. If you don't know what that is, consider yourself lucky. Suffice it to say that listening with one of these receivers is about as much fun as testing batteries with your tongue. It works, but it is painful.

So I hooked this thing up and started calling CQ on 20 meters using my rusty CW. Pretty soon I was chatting with a Ham from Washington State. He gave me a 559 report and we had a great conversation for a solid 30 minutes. Whew — the old thing still works. Now I can list it on eBay with a clear conscious.

Once I finished and logged the QSO, it hit me. I had just made a contact using 2 watts of power, a lousy receiver, a mediocre antenna, and no computer. Wow! Could this have been a reflection of my tremendous Ham operating skills? Perhaps it was just a bizarre alignment of the planets and stars? No — it was CW.

So that experience set me on a new course. I am once again learning (or relearning) my Morse Code. There is no other mode that will allow you to do so much with so little. There are CW rigs that weigh less than a pound, that you can throw into a backpack or hook into your car's cigarette lighter. There are CW transceiver kits that you can buy for under \$100 that will get you around the world. With one of these rigs, a headset, a key, and a wire thrown over a tree branch you can work the world.

But wait, there's more! The CW frequencies are much less crowded than SSB. It is not unusual to have a massive pileup trying to reach a DX station on SSB, while there are DX stations on CW plaintively calling CQ. If you like working DX or collecting awards, the CW portion of the band is the place to be. For heaven's sake — what are you waiting for?

Well okay, now the bad news: learning Morse Code is hard. Yes, there are Hams out there who can copy 40 wpm in their head while watching soap operas on TV. But invariably they are all 93 years old and were Hams before electricity was invented. For you and me, it is a struggle.

As part of my relearning process, I have done a lot of reading on the Internet. The general consensus is that it takes the Average Joe about thirty hours of practice to get to 5 wpm. If you practice an hour a day it would take you a month. And to be honest, an hour of Morse code per day is a lot of Morse!

But that should not deter you. Set reasonable goals and you will be successful. My personal goal is 15 minutes of practice a day. Some of it is on the air, but most of it is listening in the car on my way home from work. It is amazing — I am actually making progress. It is not rapid, but it is steady. Not only that, but the commute home seems much faster! The take-home lesson is that you should not expect miracles, but a little time each day is enough to make a big difference.

And you don't have to practice for a year before you get on the air. There are many Hams out there who are happy to chat with you at 10 wpm, or even slower. And that is a good thing or I wouldn't be getting many CW contacts. The old "Novice Bands" are a great place to start, but I have had slow-speed contacts even on 20 meters. Also, please watch the El Cajon email reflector for a slow-speed CW net that will be starting soon. The emphasis will be on fun, learning, and practicing, and not on speed or accuracy.

Learning CW is an effort and a commitment, but the rewards are there as well. At 5 wpm, you have a unique skill that could save lives in an emergency. As you progress to 10, 13, 20 wpm and beyond, the fun really starts.

73, John, WA6L

## Crest Radio Museum Continued



## Testing and Classes

### VEC Testing Sites

1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday:	El Cajon 10:00 am First Lutheran Church of EC 867 South Lincoln Ave.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday:	Carlsbad 10:00 am Carlsbad Safety Center Orion Way Carlsbad
3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday:	North Park 10:00 am North Park Recreation Center 4044 Idaho Street San Diego
4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday:	Chula Vista 9:00 am Salvation Army 643 Third Ave Chula Vista
5 <sup>th</sup> or last Saturday:	Escondido 10:00 am Escondido Chamber of Commerce 720 north Broadway Escondido

To make advance reservations or to find out more info from the site captain, please call 465-EXAM (3926)

### Club Attire

\*\*\*\*\* Shirts on hand. Call for Sizes \*\*\*\*\*

Get your jackets, hats and t-shirts.

Show off your club colors and let all know that the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon is strong and growing.

Contact: K6PKS Paul Schmidt (619) 733-2284

### General Class License Theory Course Instructor:

Location: 222 W. Madison Avenue, El Cajon

Time: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Text: ARRL's

#### Sessions:

1 – 6 on Tuesday: 3-13-2006 First Class

To enroll Contact: Mike Maston, N6OPH  
Education Chairman  
(619) 296-9067

## Amateur Radio At Large

From Rich N6NKJ



Hello again,

As I mentioned in last month's column, I am going to try and highlight the various amateur radio classes, public service events, and on the air activities that all of us can take part in.

For information on A.R.E.S activities, please go to [www.sdgares.org](http://www.sdgares.org) for a complete list of upcoming events: Here are a few: March 8-9th County Anthrax EMS drill; March 10, A.R.E.S breakfast; after the breakfast, there will be training on basic Emcomm message handling.

I know this one is three months away, but on June 2-3, the Palomar Radio Club will have a Special event station for the Palomar Observatory. For more information, go to their web site and look under events. SANDARC will meet March 29, at 7pm, at the Kearny Mesa Recreation Center, 3170 Armstrong St. San Diego. Last week, from Feb, 12-16. I had the chance to work a contest called the School Roundup, and I had a lot of fun. I contacted kids in elementary, middle and high schools to students at several universities. This is a bi-annual event which takes place in the winter and spring. So please, watch for the next school roundup and give the kids a contact.

At our club's last meeting, we as a club took a big step when we decided to provide communication support for public service events and to support the County-wide medical clinics with emergency communications. After conferring with Paul, KC6QLS, we came up with a name for our club's group which is: the "East County Amateur Radio Response Team." "A service of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon."

I was very glad to see the initial response for a show of hands of those who want to become involved with this endeavor, but we are going to need to have a lot more members and non members to join up and become part of this new team.

We are not going to limit our membership to just club members or to people in the East County. We want amateurs from all over San Diego County to join us in this attempt to fill the void ARES is leaving. And by the way, I AM IN NO WAY BEING CRITICAL of ARES, they are doing what they think is right for them, but it does leave a big gap for a lot of groups that have been supported by ARES in the past, and this is one attempt to fill that void.

Until next month, as always, remember the men and women who protect our land and our freedom.

73'S AND 88'S.

Rich, N6NKJ

## Welcome New Members

### Welcome Back

WAMO # 394

Tom Simser

N6AHJ

and his Wife, Phyllis Simser.

### Visitors

Ken Decker

WA6OSB

Andy Alexander

KI6HFI

Mike Herlihy

KG6MSV

William Hardick

Hats ready for pick up at the March meeting:

Mike K6KGW

David KG6QCO

Badges ready for pick up at the March meeting:

WAMO # 324	Tom	N6FRX
WAMO # 457	Roger	KE6PW
WAMO # 1690	Gloria	KI6DTA
WAMO # 1691	Rick	KI6DTD
WAMO # 1695	John	KI6JWB
WAMO # 1696	Will	KI6DQJ
WAMO # 1697	Rey	W6REY
WAMO # 1705	Kristine	KG6IZW
WAMO # 1706	Ken	W6GAF
WAMO # 1710	Bryan	KG6SMT
WAMO # 1714	Mike	KG6WLS
WAMO # 1715	David	K6AOS
WAMO # 1717	Paul	K6PFC
WAMO # 1719	Mike	W6MTG
WAMO # 1720	Karen	KI6AKV
WAMO # 1721	Elaine	KG6ZXI
WAMO # 1722	Dan	KG6WJP
WAMO # 1724	Dale	WA6YHA
WAMO # 1725	Ken	WF6H
WAMO # 1727	Steve	KG6VVO

Thank you to all members who have renewed. Please check the mailing label on your Counterpoise. If your membership has expired, please take a moment to complete and return the Renewal Application located within this Counterpoise.

73 Ann, KC6TBG



## Band Plan Cutouts to place next to your Rig

Amateur Radio Bands Technician Band Plan			
70 CM	420.00-450.00	All modes	
2 M	144.00-148.00	All modes	
6 M	50.00-54.00	All modes	
10 M	28.300 – 28.500	S5B Phone	28.100-28.300 RTTY and Data
12 M	None		
15 M	21.025-21.200	CW Only	
17 M	None		
20M	None		
40 M	7.025-7.125	CW Only	
60M Centered Freq.	5.332.00	None	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
60M Centered Freq.	5.348.00	None	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
60M Centered Freq.	5.368.00	None	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
60M Centered Freq.	5.373.00	None	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
60M Centered Freq.	5.405.00	None	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
80/75 M	3.525-3.600	CW Only	
160 M	None		

Amateur Radio Bands General Band Plan			
70 CM	420.00-450.00	All modes	
2 M	144.00-148.00	All modes	
6 M	50.00-54.00	All modes	
10 M	28.300 – 28.500	S5B Phone	28.100-28.300 RTTY and Data
12 M	24.930-24.990	USB	24.890-24.930 RTTY and Data
15 M	21.275-21.450	USB	21.025-21.200 RTTY and Data
17 M	18.110-18.168	USB	18.068-18.110 RTTY and Data
20M	14.225-14.350	USB	14.025-14.150 RTTY and Data
40 M	7.175-7.300	S5B	7.025-7.125 RTTY and Data
60M Centered Freq.	5.332.00	USB	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
60M Centered Freq.	5.348.00	USB	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
60M Centered Freq.	5.368.00	USB	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
60M Centered Freq.	5.373.00	USB	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
60M Centered Freq.	5.405.00	USB	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
80/75 M	3.800-4.00	S5B	3.525-3.600 CW Only
160 M	1.800-2.00	S5B	Many modes

Amateur Radio Bands Extra Band Plan			
70 CM	420.00-450.00	All modes	
2 M	144.00-148.00	All modes	
6 M	50.00-54.00	All modes	
10 M	28.300 – 28.500	S5B Phone	28.100-28.300 RTTY and Data
12 M	24.930-24.990	USB	24.890-24.930 RTTY and Data
15 M	21.200-21.450	USB	21.000-21.200 RTTY and Data
17 M	18.110-18.168	USB	18.068-18.110 RTTY and Data
20M	14.150-14.350	USB	14.000-14.150 RTTY and Data
40 M	7.125-7.300	S5B	7.000-7.125 RTTY and Data
60M Centered Freq.	5.332.00	USB	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
60M Centered Freq.	5.348.00	USB	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
60M Centered Freq.	5.368.00	USB	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
60M Centered Freq.	5.373.00	USB	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
60M Centered Freq.	5.405.00	USB	50 Watts ½ wave dipole
80/75 M	3.600-4.00	S5B	3.500-3.600 CW Only
160 M	1.800-2.00	S5B	Many modes

## Odds & Ends

### ARCEC DONATIONS NEEDED

\$200.00 to rebuild the Gang Box which is used for the Power Panel for Field Day. Thank you for your support at the January meeting where \$60.00 was donated. That leaves us \$140.00 to go. Donations will be accepted at the February and March meeting or by mail to our post office box. As soon as we get the parts, Mike KG6WLS has kindly agreed to rebuild the Gang Box for us at no charge. Again, thank you for your donations.





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### Is your membership ready to expire?

Take a look on your mailing label. Is the expiration date in 2006? Does it say EXPIRED? That means it's time to mail in your yearly dues. Please take time to fill out the membership application in this newsletter, and mail it in, or bring it to the next meeting.



Amateur Radio ... A National Resource